

S.A.Scout ASSOCIATION

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"I want you Patrol Leaders to go on and train your patrols entirely yourselves, because it is possible for you to get hold of each boy in your patrol and make a good fellow of him..... The most important step is your own example, because what you do yourselves, your Scouts will do also.

Show them you can obey orders.....and that you carry them out whether your Scoutmaster is present or not.

Show them that you can earn badges for proficiency, and your boys will follow.....give them the lead not the push."

-B.P.

IN THIS ISSUE

1. Editorial
2. Area Commissioners Brief
3. The First Scoutmaster
4. Scout Stamp Club
5. Rover news/Jamborees
6. Area Headquarters News
7. 2007 Centenary Celebrations
8. Area Conference
9. The Art of Rope spinning

Rightly or wrongly, the quality of the goods is apt to be assessed by the wrapper on the package. What is true of a selling line is equally true of Scouting.

Scouting is judged mainly by what is seen in public. It is therefore the duty of every Scout, whether he is man or boy to see to it that his personal appearance, bearing and behaviour always reflect credit on the Movement.

Remember that the best publicity for the Movement is afforded by cheerful, efficient and smart-looking Scouts and a well-run Group

Ack: *Smartness in Scouting* – BSA

EDITORIAL:

This is the first edition of the C.W.S. to be sent through the e.mail, by doing this we will be cutting our postal and handling fees. There will still be a printed edition for those members who do not have these facilities.

All members are requested to send in their e.mail particulars to Area Headquarters should they find that they are not on the list.

This will be our last issue for this year, it is later than normal as the December publication it is thought to be too late for practical purposes as most people have other things on their minds at that time of the year.

One of the objectives of this magazine is to communicate with all members and for them in turn to communicate with us. The cross-pollination of ideas is an indicator of good communication as well as keeping a fresh look on things. Please use it not only for suggestions and comments but also for advertising Group or District events.

Should you have an article, which is of Scouting interest please, send it - not longer than a page and we will fit it in. Interesting hikes, camps, adventure activities are all needed.

The Heritage Team and all those who have an input in the Cape Western Scouter wish all our readers and their families well over this Festive Season.

Be aware, that is worth repeating, **be aware**, vigilant and prepared wherever and whenever you are out there.

John Waterhouse
Editor



Area Commissioner's Brief

As the end of the year approaches, our attention is already focussed on the New Year. 2004 will see the launch of the Vision and Strategic Plan. This will officially be done at the Area Conference on 1 February at Peninsula Technikon. The Vision and Strategic Plan has been developed over the past few months and is now ready for implementation.

A Vision for Cape Western Area

That Scouting in the Western Cape continues to be recognised as a premier adventure, community orientated youth movement accessible to all, effectively managed, providing Leadership for the future and driven by the needs and wants of the youth of today.

The Strategic steps

1. Ensuring Committed Leaders
2. Ensure full application of the Scout Methods
3. Measurement against National and International Standards
4. Accessible to all
5. Internal & development growth focus
6. Strong training support and infrastructure

This is indeed a bold statement that we are making and one that is achievable. Each of the steps has been unpacked – the details of which will be revealed at the Conference.

In order for us to meet these objectives every scouter will be called upon to commit him/her self to the Vision and Strategic Plan.

The time has come for everybody to stand up and be counted and to deliver on the role that they hold in the movement. Each of us has a specific job to do in scouting, we all share a common Aim and if we all pull together we can make a big difference and contribute to the development of more young people.

By applying ourselves to the Strategic Plan we will not only improve the quality of scouting but will also increase our numbers. Quality Scouting is only enjoyed by a small percentage of our current members and indeed by a small percentage of the country's youth.

We need to change this and as a team we can do it.
Lets work together – Unity is Strength.

Vincent Van Gogh said, "**Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together.**"

Well the year is almost at an end (and so is my page), so allow me to take this opportunity to thank you all for your contribution to scouting this past year. It has been a busy year and I am sure one that has been successful for some and unsuccessful for others.

If you have experienced some disappointment during the year remember what Martin Luther King Jnr. said, "**We must accept finite disappointment, but never loose infinite hope**".

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season and see you in 2004.

God Bless

See you around the campfire.

Brian A. February

Area Commissioner





South Africa's First Scoutmaster

On the 16th February 1956 George French died at the age of 100 years and 4 months. A courageous, intelligent man of many talents.

He was the epitome of a good Scout, he *was* a Scout, indeed he was South Africa's *first* Scoutmaster a title to which he brought honour and dignity.

George French was born in Victorian England in 1856 (four months before B-P) at the height of the British Empire's power.

A year after he was born George's father joined the Indian Army resulting in he and his family being shipped to Bombay.

In 1860, French snr. And his family, with the exception of George, were wiped out by cholera. Five-year old George was sent back to his grandparents in England.

When his grandfather died, Nine-year old George's (wicked) uncle had him placed in a workhouse where he was put to chopping wood and making up bundles for sale. At this time he was able to listen to Charles Dickens reading his unpublished stories to other street urchins.

He was later put to work as an errand boy and then in an envelope factory. His uncle removed him from here and put him in an orphanage

At the orphanage he came under the care of a kindly man named Phillip Smith who instilled in him the love of learning. He was particularly fond of Shakespearean plays.

By the age of 15 he enlisted as a drummer-boy in the First Battalion of the Kings Regiment. After some years in England he was shipped out to India again and served in many places including the notorious Khyber Pass.

An earlier appointment, at age 19, as Regimental Schoolmaster did not stop George from volunteering, in 1879, for duty in Zululand where he served as a medical orderly at the battle of Ulundi.

In 1880 he left the Army and studied for his Teachers Certificate with the Cape Education Department. From then on he served as headmaster for a number of schools. In between schooling he found time to take groups of boys camping and hiking.

In 1894 he became principal of Claremont Public School again taking groups of boys camping and hiking inland, up mountains and along the coast.

In 1908 after hearing of B-P's Scout Movement, he formed, on the 3rd March 1908, South Africa's first Scout Troop at Claremont Public School.

He established three patrols, the Owls and Wolves and another with 16 boys, Troop Leader Fred Stern and his second son Cyril as ASM.

His first weekend camp was on Boltons Farm near the bridge, Lansdowne road. His previous youth work fitted in well with Scouting.

Around this time he started the publication called: "The South African Scout" (a forerunner to the CWS?)

In 1913 B-P conferred an honorary Silver Wolf on George French.

In 1919 his public career came to an end when he went on pension. At the same time he resigned from 1st Claremont Troop.

The meagre pension and the resulting off-spring from his second marriage in 1921 (his first wife died in 1920) caused him to take numerous teaching posts around the country. Being a great naturalist he spent many week-ends exploring koppies and the veld collecting specimens with his young children.

His 100th birthday celebration was attended by the then Chief Scout Mr Percy Fowle and the mayor and mayoress of Durban amongst other dignitaries.

He remained active mentally and physically almost to the time of his death, a much-loved family man, teacher, Scoutmaster, scholar and friend. Truly a worthy first Scoutmaster in our land.

SCOUT STAMP CLUB

Stamp Collecting: No. 2

Last month I advised what was needed for starting your stamp collection – hopefully you will have this stuff, so let's carry on.

The Stamps

These will either be clean or attached to envelopes or to other wrapping paper. You need to cut about 5mm outside the perforation. Be careful not to cut the stamp.

If you do damage the stamp, it is of no use to your collection.

The next step is to remove the stamp from the paper it is stuck to.

The Art of Soaking

Very old and rare stamps, such as are found once in a blue moon in old correspondence, are likely to be worth more if left on their original envelopes. But nearly all stamps – and especially those the beginner is likely to acquire – should be cleanly separated from any attached paper before being mounted in your collection.

Submerge the stamps in cold or luke-warm (but not hot) water for five or ten minutes, and you will find that the paper peels off easily. Then place the stamp face down on a clean piece of white blotting paper, let dry thoroughly before you mount it in your album

Many good stamps have been ruined because uninformed collectors have attached them incorrectly. We will deal with in the next article.

Here is a story behind a stamp.

French Guinea was once a West African colony of France – better known as the 'White man's grave'. Low-lying shores, flooded river mouths, stagnant swamps dense jungles and intense heat combined to make it a land of danger.

When the French annexed a small group of uninhabited islands in 1887, the tricolour was run up with great ceremony; a garrison of 4 askari was established on the largest of the islands, and

the French officials returned to the mainland exhausted by their unusual activity.

Months passed before it was remembered that nothing has been done about the islands or the garrison! A boat pulled off at once to find the inevitable: that while the officials were dozing in the heat, the four askaris had starved to death and left their skeletons under the flag they guarded.

More in the New Year - much joy to all over the festive season.

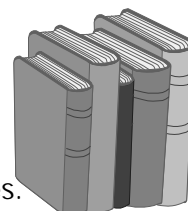
IMA STAMP



The Heritage Centre

The Centre goes from strength to strength. We are particularly proud of our library which is becoming a valuable and well organised Scout reference centre, thanks to the sterling work carried out by Ruth and Dinnie.

In the New Year we will establish a Reference Centre and a Lending Library and also set up small "box libraries" at our training centres.



The museum has received a number of new exhibits including a posthumous Bronze Cross for Gallantry to a young Cape Flats Scout who died trying to rescue his drowning brother and also one of the original British Army Fleur de Lies badges B-P issued to his soldiers.

Visitors have found the Museum very interesting as their comments in our Visitors Book testify. If you have not visited – why not? Contact 558 4652 to arrange a tour. Also suggestions or crits. welcomed.

Alan Shinton - Curator

ROVER ROUND-UP

Cape Western Rover crews have shown their metal when it comes to Service. These crews have carried out a number of commendable projects.

Castletown Rover Crew organised donations of material and supervised repairs to the SMC Hut. There was also an organised night hike for the Muslim Youth Movement at Glencairn; collection of clothing for Hanover Park; getting materials for and completing a classroom for a school in Guguletu and to top it all, receiving a well deserved Certificate of Recognition for assistance to the Peninsula Feeding Scheme

Constantiaberg have been running at least one troop meeting per troop per year and co-ordinating and distributing food parcels

CW12 Rover Crew organised the annual Rover Dinner, did a good clean-up of the Brooklyn Scout Store grounds, carried out Fire inspections of various scout halls; acted as marshalls for the recent Regional Barbeque competition, helped out with the Factreton Scout Troop and assisted with two stalls at the Good Hope Centre.

1st Strand Crew continue with its major involvement in the District Troops

Two-Oceans Crew assisted Kirstenbosch Lions to run a camp for under-privileged children at Sandvlei Sea Scout Base; assisted at the Beaver Rose Competition and catered for the Gilwell reunion.

All crews still help the Scottsville (Handicapped) Crew on a roster basis.

The Annual Rover Car Rally will take place on Sun 23 November Anyone (not only Rovers) interested in taking part contact Roger Smith 084 515 7182

Anyone interested in joining a Rover Crew please contact Area H.Q.

Andrew Franklin: Chairman A.R.C.

NEW WORLD SCOUT LEADER NAMED

Dr.Eduardo Missoni (Italy) will be the new Secretary General of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement as from 1 April 2004.

Dr Missoni was appointed by the World Committee following a worldwide election process through 81 countries.

A university professor, he has extensive field experience with youth development issues in a wide variety of cultures

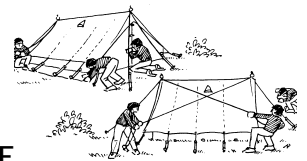
He grew up in Scouting having made his Scout Promise in 1965, he said, "I know what Scouting does for young people and what Scouts themselves can do for their society. We have an immense potential for doing even more and I am excited about the opportunity to help lead and manage an organisation which really has no equal in the world, and which has a proven capacity to make it better."

PAN AFRICAN SCOUT JAMBOREE

The Arab-African Scout Association is hosting the Pan Arab Scout Jamboree from the 1st to 10th August 2004, at their Scout Training Centre (Juddayem) near Tripoli in Libya. They are extending the opportunity to promote Scout brotherhood between African and Arab Scouts.

One patrol of male Scouts between the ages of 15 to 18 years (need not be Muslims only) is invited. At this stage it seems the Scouts would need to cover the cost of the flights and pocket money only.

Anyone interested please contact Area H.Q.



5th AFRICA JAMBOREE

The following participation fees are applicable to participants wishing to register: Before end Dec. 2003:US\$90 All inclusive of meals and activities. Before end Aug. 2004 US\$100 ditto.

Scouts wishing to register before 31.12.03 please forward names and details with proof of payment to the SAHQ account.

I have registered and paid our participation reservation and will receive the registration forms shortly which will be forwarded to you.

This is a great opportunity; at present exchange rate (we are chartering a train) the cost is approx. R1000 all inclusive. We want 100 Scouts per area. Please promote this event and encourage fundraising activities to start ASAP

Luke van de Laan : SAHQ

From Area Headquarters

The work at Headquarters has carried on throughout the year, and progress has been made. Much has been accomplished and things are set for another sterling year.

It gives me great pleasure to report that the number of Census forms returned and payments received has dramatically increased this year. 13 out of 14 Districts have submitted their forms to Area HQ, and thus far 41 % of the contributions have been received – well done.

Camp and Hike Permits issued during 2003 compared to 2002:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Scout Camp Permits	32	31
Hike Permits	31	28
Cub Camp Permits	22	27

Springbok and Leaping Wolf achievements during 2003 compared to 2002:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Springbok Scouts	19	18
Leaping Wolves	61	60

Congratulations to those who have achieved their Springbok and Leaping Wolf badges.

The payment of rates on leasehold and freehold Scout properties has taken on a new dimension. Grant-in-Aid applications are made annually and will be done by Area HQ. Applications have to be submitted by the 30 October of each year, and we urge all groups to submit their annual financial statements in time, as this is one of the requirements.

On the property side, it is disappointing to report that properties are not being fully utilized and maintained. Properties have already been lost due to poor maintenance, and Council believes that there are other community organizations that can better utilize Council land, and will not hesitate to act. Our lease agreements offer little protection against this approach and we appeal to all to take this seriously and to act accordingly.

From the Area office, we salute all of you who are making a Scouting difference in your communities and Area. Let's open the floodgates and let as many new members come in as possible.

Area Headquarters will close for the holiday period on Friday 12 December 2003 at 12:00 and re-opens on 12 January 2004.

Thank you for all your support in offering of your time. From all of us at Area HQ, we wish you a joyful and safe Festive Season.

A Few Thoughts

At the end of life we shall not be asked how much pleasure we had in it, but how much service we gave in it; not how full it was of success, but how full it was of sacrifice; not how happy we were, but how helpful we were, not how ambition was gratified, but how love was served.

T. Nel

AREA FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Development News

The year 2003 is nearly at its end. We, the "Development Team", want to thank all the uniform and lay members with whom we have worked with this year.

We have all looked forward to a long rest, as Scouting can be enjoyable and very tiring working with the youth. To all the Cubs and Scouts, we do hope you will all say:

"THANK YOU"

To your parents and Scout leaders for the wonderful year (2003) of Cubing and Scouting. We hope the year 2004 will be just so enjoyable and fun.

May we take this opportunity of wishing you all well during the Festive Season and a prosperous New Year 2004.

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on the future of Scouting in the year 2004."

Happy Holidays

AAC Development – Desmond Sam
Field Commissioner – Chris Hendricks



The World Scout Jamboree is a gathering of Scouts from around the world, for 10 days of adventurous activities, memorable events, and international friendship in a campsite big enough to accommodate tens of thousands of young people.

The theme of the 21st World Scout Jamboree in 2007 is **"One World, One Promise"** – which captures the aspirations and hopes of young people for the future.

Where, When, What and Who ?

The 21st World Scout Jamboree will be hosted by the United Kingdom, in celebration of the centenary of Scouting. It will take place at Hylands Park Chelmsford (Essex) in the UK, from 27th July to 8th August 2007. In addition, there will be opportunities for Jamboree Scouts to enjoy Home Hospitality for a few days before or after the Jamboree, and also to visit or camp on Brownsea Island.

40,000 young people will camp, live and work alongside each other for 10 days. They will come from homes as diverse as Africa and Europe, cultures as different as Arab and American countries, and histories as varied as the Asia-Pacific and Eurasia regions. Together they will celebrate what unites them, and learn what they can do together to help build a better world.

"Join-in-Centenary" programmes, along with "Jamboree on the Internet" and "Jamboree on the Air", will be run alongside to enable all other Scouts around the world to share in the Jamboree experience.

A Once in a Lifetime Experience

World Scout Jamborees take place every four years. More young people from more countries participate in the World Scout Jamboree than compete in the Olympics. Previous world jamborees have taken place in Thailand, Chile, the Netherlands, and many other countries around the world.

The World Scout Jamboree is a "once in a lifetime" experience for everyone who attends.

World Celebrations

2007 will be a whole year of celebrations around the world for Scouting.

Since Scouting was founded in 1907, over half a billion young people in virtually all countries and cultures will have learnt and grown through Scouting activities, and will have pledged to live by the common value system of the Scout Promise and Law.

2007 will also be the launching pad for the second century of Scouting, and Scouting will promise to meet the needs of even more young people, their families and communities worldwide.

Along with National Celebrations and the World Scout Jamboree, special linked events will be held around the globe to celebrate the unity of World Scouting and show to the world what young people can achieve together.

Sunrise Ceremony

As the sun rises on 1st August 2007, Scouts and former Scouts worldwide will mark the centenary of Scouting. They will join together on their nearest high ground and in public places, and as the dawn breaks they will renew their Scout Promise and commit themselves to live by the ideals of Scouting.

Starting from Kiribati, Kamchatka, Fiji and New Zealand, sweeping westwards round the globe through the World Scout Jamboree and Brownsea Island, and finally reaching Hawaii, Alaska and Western Samoa, the Sunrise Ceremony will circle around the globe. Shared through the Internet and by satellite, Scouts worldwide will join together in the celebrations with their 28 million brother and sister Scouts in every country as the events happen.

Brownsea Island

Brownsea Island, the site of the first experimental Scout camp, will host a Sunrise Camp for two Scouts from every Scouting country, to mark the Sunrise Ceremony.

The African kudu horn used by Baden-Powell to open his experimental camp will sound again as dawn breaks on Brownsea.

CONFERENCE 2004

All Scouters and Group Lay Officials are invited to attend the Annual Conference to participate in the launch of the AREA'S VISION AND STRATEGIC PLAN

Date: 1 February 2004
Venue: Peninsula Technikon
Time: 11h00 to 16h00
Registration from 10h00

Guest Speaker: Prof. Brian Figaji
Vice Chancellor of
Peninsula Technikon

The following presentations will form part of the Conference Programme:

- Head of the Child Protection Unit of The South African Police Services
- Ms Michelle Dutton - The Programme Director of Camp America
- Andrew Plastow – Raising the Profile/Image of Scouting
- 2007 Scout Centenary Events

Please notify the Area Office by 23 January 2004 of your attendance.

The Area Commissioner has asked that every Group is represented by their Scouters and Lay Officials as it is important that everybody is aware of what is expected of them for the successful implementation of the Strategic Plan.

SCOUTS/GUIDES OWN SERVICE

All Cubs, Scouts, Rovers, Scouters, Parents and Friends are invited to attend an Interfaith Service on 22 February 2004 to be held in the City Hall, Cape Town. The Service, which will be held with the Girl Guides, will start at 15h00 and all are asked to be seated by 14h45.

Packs, Troops and Rover Crews are asked to bring their flags along. Flag parties and those participating in the service are asked to meet at 13h30.

As indicated by the Editor, this newsletter has been placed on the Area's Website. It has also been e-mailed and posted to our readers. If you have received this through the post but would like to receive it via e-mail or are able to access it through the Website, please forward an e-mail message to capewest@scouting.org.za and mark it for the attention of the Editor so that your name could be removed from the postage list.

